

TROPICAL DEPRESSION 35W

Detected on the first day of December, Tropical Depression 35W lasted more than a week as a discrete system, although it was in warning status only 48 hours.

As Super Typhoon Irma (34W) was weakening in the Philippine Sea, a weak surface circulation and an associated area of convection were detected in the western Marshall Islands. The tropical disturbance was mentioned on the 010600Z Significant Tropical Weather Advisory as a poor suspect area. Over the next five days this tropical disturbance moved generally west-northwestward and continued to organize very slowly. The presence of strong vertical wind shear arrested development and eventually

weakened the system. After the disturbance passed to the south of Guam, the convection flared and at 050500Z the first Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert was issued. The Alert was reissued at 060500Z. Then, based on a satellite intensity estimate of 30-kt (15-m/sec) surface winds (Figure 3-35-1), a Tropical Cyclone Warning was issued at 070000Z. At 080000Z, the approach of a mid-level short wave trough from the northwest resulted in the depression abruptly changing track and recurving northeastward. Increased vertical wind shear from the west-southwest was responsible for further weakening the system. The final warning was issued at 090000Z as the cyclone dissipated over water.

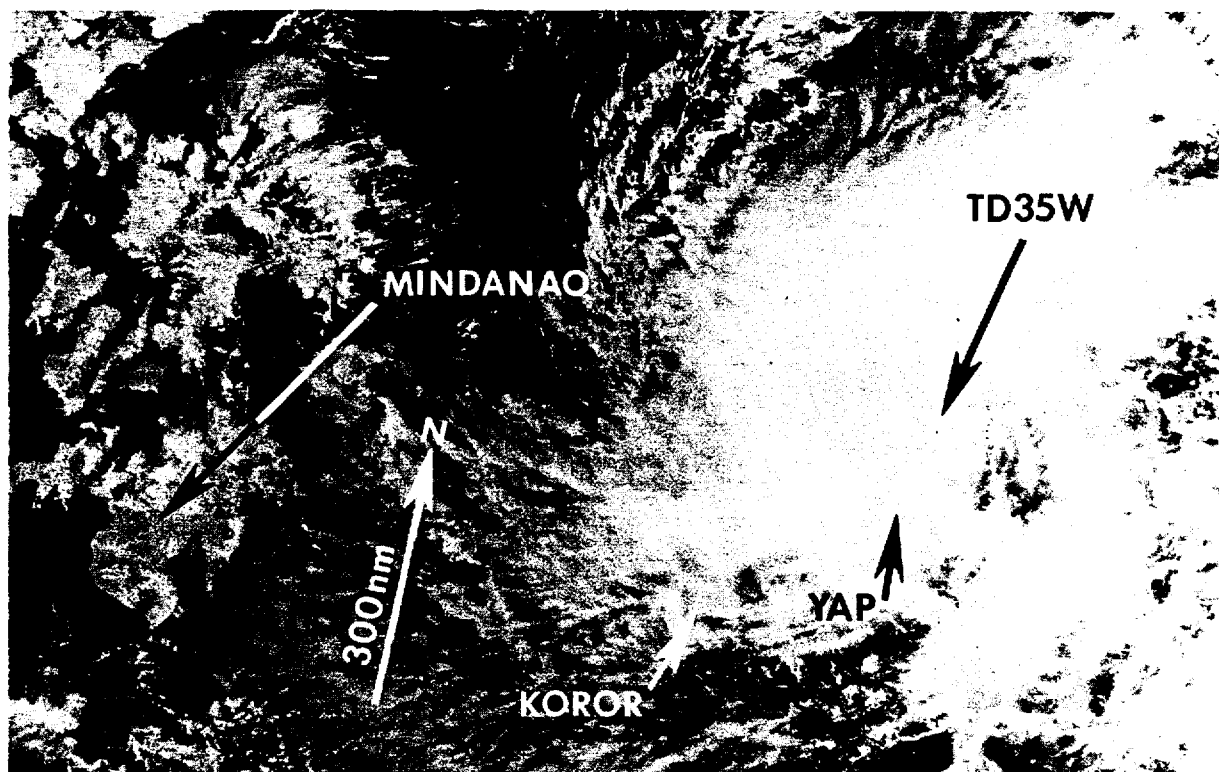


Figure 3-35-1. Tropical Depression 35W with 30-kt (15-m/sec) maximum sustained surface winds (070457Z December NOAA visual imagery).